BHEL's Power Plant in Sudan

3269. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether BHEL propose to set up 500 MW power plant in Sudan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the project would open up more opportunities for the Indian manufacturing sector to set up bases there to tap the African and Middle East Markets; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) and (b) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has signed a contract with the National Electricity Corporation (NEC), a Government of Sudan enterprise on 11th February, 2006 for setting up of a 500 MW Power Plant at Kosti (White Nile State) in Sudan on turnkey basis.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. This project is likely to be a stepping stone to target opportunities in the emerging markets of the area including Sudan and other African countries.

Navaratna Status of Public Enterprises

3270. SHRI BALVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:
DR. VIJAY MALLYA:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under Government's consideration to grant Navratna status to few more public enterprises;

(b) if so, the details in this regard, indicating the criteria adopted for the purpose; and

(c) by when, a final decision in the matter is likely to be taken?